

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 MBFR V 00023 031149Z

21

ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 AEC-05 CIAE-00 EUR-12 H-01 INR-07 IO-10 L-02

NSAE-00 OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-03 PRS-01 SAJ-01

SAM-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 TRSE-00 RSC-01 NSC-05

BIB-01 ISO-00 /088 W

----- 004702

P R 031050Z FEB 75

FM USDEL MBFR VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0818

SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY

INFO ALL MBFR MISSIONS 0130

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

USDEL SALT TWO GENEVA

S E C R E T MBFR VIENNA 0023

FROM US REP MBFR

GENEVA FOR CSCE DEL

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJECT: MBFR NEGOTIATIONS: SUMMARY REPORT FOR PERIOD JAN 27-FEB 2

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: THE FIFTH ROUND OF THE MBFR NEGOTIATIONS COMMENCED WITH THE JANUARY 30 PLENARY MEETING, AT WHICH THE UK AND THE GDR REPS DELIVERED SUMMARY PRESENTATIONS, ALONG FAIRLY STANDARD LINES, OF THE CURRENT WESTERN AND EASTERN POSITIONS. THE AD HOC GROUP ALSO RESUMED ITS CONSULTATIONS THIS WEEK. THE ALLIES ARE AIMING AT GIVING A NATO AGREED RESPONSE TO THE EASTERN FREEZE PROPOSAL, AT

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 MBFR V 00023 031149Z

THE FIRST INFORMAL MEETING OF THIS ROUND, ON FEB 4. END SUMMARY.

2. AT THE JANUARY 30 PLENARY MEETING, THE UK STATEMENT STRESSED THE GOAL OF NEGOTIATING MILITARILY SIGNIFICANT REDUCTIONS, EMPHASIZED THE NEED TO DEAL WITH AND TAKE ACCOUNT OF EXISTING GROUND FORCE AND GEOGRAPHIC DISPARITIES, AND STATED THAT "THE IMPORTANT PROBLEMS INVOLVED IN THESE NEGOTIATIONS" CANNOT BE RESOLVED BY MEASURES WHICH MIGHT GIVE THE APPEARANCE OF GREATER SECURITY WITHOUT THE REALITY." THE PARTICULAR IMPORTANCE OF THE ALLIED AIR NO-INCREASE PROPOSAL WAS UNDERSCORED.

3. THE GDR PLENARY STATEMENT REITERATED THE EASTERN WISH TO REACH AGREEMENT FOR THE CARRYING OUT OF "PRACTICAL MEASURES" IN 1975. GDR REP OESER INSISTED THAT ANY AGREEMENT CORRESPOND FULLY TO THE PRINCIPLES OF UNDIMINISHED SECURITY, EQUALITY AND MUTUALITY, AS AGREED IN THE COMMUNIQUE OF THE PREPARATORY TALKS. THE GDR REP ASSERTED THAT THE NOV 8, 1973 EASTERN DRAFT AGREEMENT, THE EASTERN INITIAL REDUCTION STEP PROPOSAL AND THE EASTERN FREEZE PROPOSAL ALL FULLY CORRESPONDED TO THESE PRINCIPLES. HE CHARGED THAT WESTERN PROPOSALS TO DATE CONTRADICTED THE AGREED PRINCIPLES, WERE DESIGNED TO GAIN UNILATERAL WESTERN MILITARY ADVANTAGE AND THEREFORE WERE UNREALISTIC. REPLYING DIRECTLY TO US REP'S DEC 12 PLENARY STATEMENT, OESER DENIED THAT THE EAST WISHED TO AVOID SUBSTANTIAL REDUCTIONS. HE STRESSED REDUCTION OF ARMAMENTS AS WELL AS PERSONNEL AND SAID THAT AIR FORCES AND UNITS EQUIPPED WITH NUCLEAR ARMAMENTS SHOULD BE REDUCED IN ADDITION TO CONVENTIONAL GROUND FORCES AND THEIR ARMAMENTS.

4. IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE JANUARY 30 PLENARY, GDR REP OESER HELD A PRESS CONFERENCE WHICH BROKE NO NEW GROUND IN THE EASTERN PUBLIC POSITIONS BUT WHICH ACCUSED THE WEST OF BLOCKING PROGRESS IN THE TALKS BECAUSE OF INSISTENCE ON THE INEQUITABLE WESTERN POSITION.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 MBFR V 00023 031149Z

5. THE AD HOC GROUP HELD A GENERAL DISCUSSION OF ALLIED STRATEGY AND PROSPECTS FOR THE FIFTH ROUND. THERE WAS AGREEMENT ON THE NEED TO HAVE NATO GUIDANCE ON THE EASTERN FREEZE PROPOSAL IN TIME FOR USE WITH THE EAST AT THE FEB 4 INFORMAL MEETING. THERE ALSO WAS A CONSENSUS FOR US REP'S PROPOSAL THAT THE ALLIES CONTINUE, IN THE CURRENT ROUND, TO PRESS FOR MILITARILY

SIGNIFICANT REDUCTIONS, AND ON THE THEMES OF THE COMMON CEILING AND THE NEED TO OFFSET GEOGRAPHIC DISPARITIES. NETHERLANDS AND US REP SUPPORTED NATO ACTION ON AIR MANPOWER PROPOSALS IN TIME FOR USE IN THIS ROUND. UK REP CAME OUT FOR PUTTING AIR MANPOWER UNDER THE COMMON CEILING WHILE POSTPONING REDUCTIONS. FRG REP SAID BONN FAVORED A DETAILED, THOROUGH STUDY IN NATO OF AIR MANPOWER PROPOSALS, ADDING THAT AIR MANPOWER REDUCTIONS SHOULD BE CONSIDERED IN THE WIDER PERSPECTIVE OF OPTION 3 AND OTHER ASPECTS OF THE WESTERN POSITION; THE FRG REP EXPECTED LITTLE EASTERN FLEXIBILITY AND LITTLE PROGRESS IN THE FIFTH ROUND. THIS EXPECTATION WAS SHARED BY SOME OTHER ALLIED REPS AS WELL.

6. THE LUXEMBOURG REP INFORMED US BILATERALLY THAT HIS GOVERNMENT HAD DECIDED TO CHANGE ITS NEGATIVE POSITION ON PARTICIPATING IN A COMMITMENT OF NON-US WESTERN DIRECT PARTICIPANTS TO PARTICIPATE IN MBFR PHASE II REDUCTIONS. LATER IN THE FIFTH ROUND, AFTER USING THE PHRASE "EXCEPT FOR LUXEMBOURG" ONCE OR TWICE MORE, THE PHRASE WOULD BE DROPPED IN FUTURE ALLIED STATEMENTS DEALING WITH THE WESTERN "ALL PARTICIPANTS" OFFER, THUS LEAVING THE EAST TO DRAW THE CORRECT CONCLUSION ON ITS OWN THAT LUXEMBOURG IS READY TO REDUCE IN PHASE II. RESOR

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MUTUAL FORCE REDUCTIONS, MEETING REPORTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 03 FEB 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975MBFRV00023
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750038-0640
From: MBFR VIENNA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750278/aaaacsgrm.tel
Line Count: 141
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ACDA
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <02 APR 2003 by MartinML>; APPROVED <03 APR 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MBFR NEGOTIATIONS: SUMMARY REPORT FOR PERIOD JAN 27-FEB 2
TAGS: PARM, NATO, MBFR
To: STATE DOD
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006